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APR 13 2007

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the amended first full paragraph on page 5 with the following corrected paragraph:

While the vinyl ester copolymer is typically the sole polymeric component and the primary ingredient of the composition, other polymeric materials may be blended with the ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer in amounts up to about 50% and preferably up to about 10%, e.g., about 1 to 10% based on the weight of the blend. Such polymeric materials include ethylene-propylene-diene monomer (EPDM), styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR), ethylene-propylene rubber (EPR), ethylene-propylene-hexadiene terpolymer, butyl rubber, cis-polybutadiene, cis-polyisoprene, polyurethane, polyamide, and the like, and mixtures thereof. Furthermore, additional components may be employed to provide the desired characteristics of the composition. These additional components include, for example, process aids in an amount up to about 8% by weight; fillers in an amount of about 20 to 60% by weight; plasticizers in an amount up to about 15% by weight, preferably about 3 to 15% by weight; metal oxides or hydroxides in an amount up to about 8% by weight; peroxides in an amount of about 0.5 to 5% by weight; coagents in an amount up to about 5% by weight; and antioxidants in an amount up to about 5% by weight. Other additives commonly used in polymeric compositions for use in preparing hoses may be added in appropriate amounts to provide their desired effect.